GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Andhra Pradesh Forest Department – World Bank aided APCFM project in Vizianagaram Forest Division – Excess expenditure in the works "Uprootal of Stumps" – Disciplinary action against Sri N. Prabhakara Rao, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), formerly Vizianagaram Range of Vizianagaram Division - Imposing a penalty of 2% cut in pension for a period of two (2) years - Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 37 **Dated: 06-07-2021**

Read the following:

1) From DG., (Vig & Enft.) & E.O. Prl. Secy to Govt., GAD Vigilance Report No.47, (593/V&E/NR2/2006) dt.24.4.2006.
2) Memo.No.4910/For.IV/2006-1, EFS & T (Sec.IV) Dept., dt.13.6.2006
3) From the PCCF, Ref. No. 26200/2006/PXA-3, dt.15.9.2006
4) Memo.No.4910/For.IV/A1/2006, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dt.21.08.2012.
5) From the PCCF, Ref. No. 26200/2006/K3, dt.12.9.2013.
6) Memo.No.4910/For.IV/A1/2006-4, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dt.18.10.2013.
7) From the Prl.CCF Ref.No.26200/2006/K3, dt.08-11-2013.
8) Memo.No.4910/For.IV/A1/2006, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dt.16.09.2014.
9) From the Prl.CCF. Ref.No.26200/2006/Vig-3, dt.29.10.2014.
10) Memo.No.4910/For.IV/A1/2006, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dt.27.2.2015.
11) From the PCCF, Ref. No.26200/2006/Vig-1, dt.11.3.2015.
12) Memo.No.4910/For.IV/A1/06, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dt.05.02.2016.
13) From the PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Guntur, Lr. Rc.No.26200/2006/A&DC-2(ii), dt.05.11.2019.
14) Letter No.EFS01-FRST0FVIG/78/2019-SEC-IV, dt.13.12.2019.
15) Letter No.4910/Sec.IV/A1/2006, EFS & T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 11.03.2021.
16) From the APPSC, Lr. No.122/DC&C/2021, dt.23.03.2021.
17) Letter No.4910/Sec.IV/A1/2006, EFS & T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 16.04.2021.
18) From the APPSC, Lr. No.122/DC&C/2021, dt.03.05.2021.
19) Letter No.4910/Sec.IV/A1/2006, EFS & T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 21.05.2021.
20) From the APPSC, Lr. No.122/DC&C/2021, dt.23.06.2021.

***

ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, the Director General, General Administration (Vigilance & Enforcement) Department has informed that on reliable information that excess expenditure was incurred in the works of Uprootal of Stumps taken up during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 in Vizianagaram Forest Division, the Vigilance & Enforcement Department have taken up enquiry into the matter and submitted report, recommending disciplinary action against the officials including Sri N.Prabhakara Rao, Forest Range Officer.

2. In the Memo. 2nd read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) was requested to take necessary action, on the recommendations of the Director General, Vigilance & Enforcement Department and furnish a compliance report to the Director General, Vigilance & Enforcement Department directly under intimation to the Government.

3. In the letter 5th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad has informed that, the following Article of Charge was issued against Sri N. Prabhakara Rao, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), formerly Vizianagaram Range of Vizianagaram Division in PCCF's Ref. No. 26200/2006/PXA3, dated 15-9-2006 on the following counts:

(P.T.O)

Article- That he had while working as Forest Range Officer, Vizianagaram Range of Vizianagaram (T) Division, shown gross negligence in discharging his legitimate duties and shown lack of devotion to duty, resulted certain irregularities pointed out by the Vigilance & Enforcement Officials in their report regarding booking of excess expenditure in the works of "Uprootal of stumps" in the VSS areas of Parvathipuram Range of Vizianagaram Division to a tune of Rs.80,928/-

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) has informed that the Charged Officer acknowledged the Article of Charge on 27-10-2006 but did not submit the written statement of defence. Further, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in Rc.No.26200/2006/PXA-3, dated.08.11.2006, appointed Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam as Common Inquiry Officer and Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram as Presenting Officer for conducting regular enquiry. The Inquiry Officer conducted the enquiry and submitted the findings holding that the charge against the Charged Officer is not held proved since the FSR Zonal Committee has ratified the rate adopted to an extent of 7.00 ha.

5. Disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9 of AP Revised pension Rules, 1980. Since the Charged Officer retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation.

6. After careful examine of the entire issue, it has been observed that mere ratification of the work done by the Charged Officer, the irregularity cannot be absolved and provisionally decided to impose a penalty of 2% cut in pension for a period of (2) years on the Charged Officer Sri N. Prabhakara Rao, FRO (Retd.) formerly FRO, Vizianagaram Range, Vizianagaram Division, under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980. Accordingly, vide Memo. 12th read above, a show-cause Notice was issued to the Charged Officer Sri N. Prabhakara Rao, FRO (Retd.) on the proposed punishment and the same was acknowledged by the Charged Officer on 26.04.2016. In letter 13th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has informed that no further defense statement was received from the Charged Officer within the stipulated time.

7. The entire issued has been examined and it has been decided to confirm the provisional decision to impose a penalty of 2% cut in pension for a period of (2) years on Sri N.Prabhakara Rao, FRO (Retd.). Accordingly, the Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission, has been addressed in the matter.

8. In the letter 20th read above, the Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission has stated that the Commission agreed with the proposal of the Government, to impose the penalty of 2% cut in pension for a period of (2) two years against Sri N.Prabhakara Rao, Forest Range Officer (Retd.).

9. After careful examination of the matter, Government hereby order to impose a penalty of **"2% (two percent) cut in pension for a period of (2) two years"**, against the retired Charged Officer Sri N. Prabhakara Rao, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), formerly Vizianagaram Range of Vizianagaram Division, under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

10. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

VIJAY KUMAR G.Srkr
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri N. Prabhakara Rao, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), formerly Vizianagaram Range of Vizianagaram Division through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

(Contd...)

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.
Copy to:
The Accountant General (A&E), Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada.
The Secretary to Vigilance Commission, A.P. Vigilance Commission, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
The Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Vijayawada.
The PS to M (Energy, EFS & T).
The PS to the Secretary to Government, EFS & T Department.
SF/SC (Computer No.1041783).

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER